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**Mi SWACO**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: PATEL, Arvind D.

Group Art Unit: 1712

Serial No.: 10/647830

Examiner: RICHARD, Charles R. 186

Confirmation No.: 2956

Filed: 08/25/2003

Atty. Dkt. No.: PA-00412US  
(11836.0750.NPUS00)

For: SHALE HYDRATION INHIBITION AGENT AND  
METHOD OF USE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications, and other materials and information which they are aware of and which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose. These items have been listed on PTO FORM 1449 of which there is one (1) page enclosed herewith in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b). In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98, only copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature, if any, are enclosed.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is believed to be filed before the mailing date of a final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. [37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)].

This paper is to serve as authorization to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to the MI-SWACO Deposit Account No. 13-3082, Reference No. PA-00412US.

It is respectfully requested that the listed items be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing on this application. Applicant further requests that an initialed copy of the enclosed FORM 1449 be entered into the application file wrapper and returned to the applicants with the next communication from the Office in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be, material to the patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)].

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Applicant hereby requests for any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application. Applicant's representative hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to the MI-SWACO Deposit Account No. 13-3082, referencing PA-00412US.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion, reconsideration, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Carter White

Patent Counsel, M-I L.L.C.

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Date: 12/8/05